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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Application No.: 09/926,377 **Examiner:** Laura M. Schillinger

Filing Date: December 13, 2001 **Art Unit:** 2813

First Inventor: Thomas Grassl **Customer No.:** 23364

Attorney No.: GRAS3003/JEK/JJC **Confirmation No.:** 9840

For: **CIRCUIT SUITABLE FOR VERTICAL INTEGRATION
AND METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each patent listed on Form PTO-1449 is submitted herewith.

Statement of Timeliness

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the mailing of either the mailing of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but before payment of the Issue Fee. The certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is submitted

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below and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) and § 1.17(i) is submitted herewith.

Certification

It is hereby certified that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Additional Comments

The patent listed on Form PTO-1449 was cited during the course of the German counterpart application in an Office action dated June 3, 2005. During examination of the German application, claims 1 and 2 in the German application were considered patentable over the cited patent. The subject matter of German claims 1 and 2 form portions of independent claim 19 of the pending application.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the Applicant's Attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

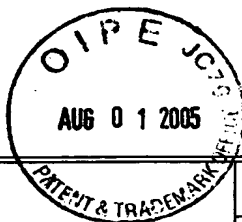
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
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Date: August 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin J. Cassell", written in a cursive style.

JUSTIN J. CASSELL
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,205



Customer 23364

Sheet 1 of 1

B/O Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	Atty. Docket Number	Serial Number
	GRAS3003/JEK	09/926,377
	Applicant	
	Thomas GRASSL	
	Filing Date	Group
	December 13, 2001	2813

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Patentee/Applicant	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	3,648,131	Mar. 1972	Stubby			

Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country/Agency	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Place of Publication, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.